This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

<u>Listing of Claims:</u>

Claim 1   (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus comprising:

a)   <u>an</u> encoding ~~means for~~ <u>unit, arranged to</u> error detection or correction ~~encoding~~ <u>encode first</u> information to be distributed in a Markup language description format used in a multimedia network,

said encoding ~~means~~ <u>unit</u> error detection or correction encoding at least a portion in a header in the information to be distributed with higher redundancy than an entity in the information to be distributed; and

b)   <u>a</u> transmission ~~means for multiplexing~~ <u>unit, arranged to multiplex</u> the <u>first</u> information ~~to be distributed~~ encoded by said encoding ~~means~~ <u>unit</u> in a broadcast signal, and transmitting the multiplexed signal, wherein said transmission ~~means~~ <u>unit</u> is also arranged so as to multiplex second information including character information into the broadcast signal without using the Markup language description format to transmit the thus-multiplexed signal<u>, and wherein the first information has a data format thereof which includes a format that complies with a data format of the second information.</u>

Claim 2   (Currently Amended): An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the broadcast signal is an FM audio broadcast signal, and said transmission ~~means~~ <u>unit</u>

frequency-multiplexes the information to be distributed in a frequency band different from an

FM-modulated audio signal.

Claim 3   (Canceled)

Claim 4   (Previously Presented): An apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein the Markup language description format is an HTML (HyperText Markup Language)

format.

Claim 5   (Currently Amended): An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

the data format forms an error correction code, the <u>first</u> information ~~to be distributed~~ is

transmitted as an entity in the data format <u>of the second information</u>, and the header of the <u>first</u>

information ~~to be distributed~~ forms another error correction code.

Claim 6   (Currently Amended): An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

the <u>first</u> information ~~to be distributed~~ can contain character information and image information as

an entity thereof, and when the entity is the character information, the <u>first</u> information ~~to be~~

~~distributed~~ has higher redundancy than when the entity is the image information.

Claim 7   (Currently Amended): An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

the header of the <u>first</u> information ~~to be distributed~~ is transmitted a plurality of number of times

while being distributed in the entity.

Claim 8   (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus comprising:

a)   ~~an~~ an input ~~means for inputting~~ unit, arranged to input first information to be distributed in a Markup language description format used in a multimedia network; and

b)   a transmission ~~means for multiplexing~~ unit, arranged to multiplex the first information ~~to be distributed~~ in a broadcast signal and ~~transmitting~~ transmit the multiplexed signal,

wherein a portion of a header in the first information ~~to be distributed~~ is transmitted at least a plurality of number of times while an entity in the first information ~~to be distributed~~ is transmitted, ~~and~~

wherein said transmission ~~means~~ unit is also arranged so as to multiplex second information including character information into the broadcast signal without using the Markup language description format to transmit the thus-multiplexed signal, and

wherein the first information has a data format thereof which includes a format that complies with a data format of the second information.

Claim 9   (Canceled)

Claim 10   (Previously Presented): An apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the Markup language description format is an HTML (HyperText Markup Language) format.

Claim 11   (Currently Amended): An apparatus according to claim ~~10~~ 8, wherein the data format forms an error correction code, and the header of the <u>first</u> information ~~to be distributed~~ forms another error correction code.

Claim 12   (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus comprising:

a)   <u>an</u> encoding ~~means for~~ <u>unit, arranged to</u> error detection or correction ~~encoding~~ <u>encode first</u> information to be distributed in a Markup language description format used in a multimedia network; and

b)   <u>a</u> transmission ~~means for multiplexing~~ <u>unit, arranged to multiplex</u> the <u>first</u> information ~~to be distributed~~ encoded by said encoding ~~means~~ <u>unit</u> in a broadcast signal, and ~~transmitting~~ <u>transmit</u> the multiplexed signal,

wherein a plurality of kinds of information are able to be transmitted as an entity in the <u>first</u> information ~~to be distributed~~, wherein said encoding ~~means~~ <u>unit</u> uses different error detection or correction ability in correspondence with the kind of information, ~~and~~ wherein said transmission ~~means~~ <u>unit</u> is also arranged so as to multiplex second information including character information into the broadcast signal without using the Markup language description format to transmit the thus-multiplexed signal<u>, and wherein the first information has a data format thereof which includes a format that complies with a data format of the second information</u>.

Claim 13   (Canceled)

Claim 14   (Previously Presented): An apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the Markup language description format is an HTML (HyperText Markup Language) format.

Claims 15-17 (Canceled)

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): An information processing method comprising the steps of:

error detection or correction encoding first information to be distributed in a Markup language description format used in a multimedia network, at least a portion in a header in the information to be distributed being error detection or correction encoded with higher redundancy than an entity in the information to be distributed; and

multiplexing the encoded first information to be distributed in a broadcast signal, and transmitting the multiplexed signal,

wherein said multiplexing step is also arranged so as to multiplex second information including character information into the broadcast signal without using the Markup language description format to transmit the thus-multiplexed signal, and wherein the first information has a data format thereof which includes a format that complies with a data format of the second information.

Claim 19   (Currently Amended): An information processing method comprising the steps of:

inputting <u>first</u> information to be distributed in a Markup language description format used in a multimedia network; and

multiplexing the <u>first</u> information ~~to be distributed~~ in a broadcast signal and transmitting the multiplexed signal, wherein a portion of a header in the <u>first</u> information ~~to be distributed~~ is transmitted at least a plurality of number of times while an entity in the <u>first</u> information ~~to be distributed~~ is transmitted, ~~and~~ wherein said multiplexing step is also arrange so as to multiplex second information including character information into the broadcast signal without using the Markup language description format to transmit the thus-multiplexed signal, <u>and wherein the first information has a data format thereof which includes a format that complies with a data format of the second information.</u>

Claim 20   (Currently Amended): An information processing method comprising the steps of:

error detection or correction encoding <u>first</u> information to be distributed in a Markup language description format used in a multimedia network; and

multiplexing the encoded <u>first</u> information ~~to be distributed~~ in a broadcast signal, and transmitting the multiplexed signal, wherein a plurality of kinds of information are able to be transmitted as an entity in the <u>first</u> information ~~to be distributed~~, wherein different error detection or correction ability is used in correspondence with the kind of information, ~~and~~ wherein said multiplexing step is also arranged so as to multiplex second information including character information into the broadcast signal without using the Markup language description format to transmit the thus-multiplexed signal, <u>and wherein the first information has a data format thereof which includes a format that complies with a data format of the second information.</u>

Claim 21   (Canceled)

Claim 22   (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus

comprising:

a)   a reception ~~means for receiving~~ unit, arranged to receive a first broadcast

signal obtained by multiplexing first information to be distributed in a Markup language

description format used in a multimedia network and a first error check code added for the

information to be distributed, wherein said reception ~~means~~ unit is also arranged so as to receive

a second broadcast signal provided by multiplexing second information including character

information distributed without using the Markup language description format, and a second

error check code, and wherein the first information has a data format thereof which includes a

format that complies with a data format of the second information; and

b)   a processing ~~means for performing~~ unit, arranged to perform error

correction or detection processing of the first information using the first error check code,

wherein said processing ~~means~~ unit is also arranged so as to execute the error

correction or detection processing on the second information by using the second error check

code, when the second broadcast signal is received by said reception unit ~~means~~.

Claims 23-25 (Canceled)

Claim 26   (Currently Amended): An apparatus according to claim 22,

wherein the first information is character information, and wherein said apparatus further

comprises <u>an</u> output ~~means for outputting~~ <u>unit, arranged to output</u> the character information

processed by said processing ~~means~~ <u>unit</u> to <u>a</u> display ~~means~~ <u>unit</u>.

Claim 27   (Currently Amended): An apparatus according to claim 26,

wherein the first information includes image information, and said display ~~means~~ <u>unit</u> displays a

message indicating reception of the image information when the image information is received.

Claim 28   (Currently Amended): An apparatus according to claim 26, further

comprising;

<u>a</u> storage ~~means for storing~~ <u>unit, arranged to store</u> the <u>received</u> information ~~to be~~

~~distributed~~; and

<u>an</u> informing ~~means~~ <u>unit, arranged to transmit</u> ~~for informing~~ that the received

information ~~to be distributed~~ is stored in said storage ~~means~~ <u>unit</u> and has not been output to an

external device.

Claim 29   (Previously Presented): An apparatus according to claim 22,

wherein the Markup language description format is an HTML (HyperText Markup Language)

format.

Claims 30-31 (Canceled)

Claim 32   (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus

comprising:

a)   a reception ~~means for receiving~~ unit, arranged to receive a broadcast signal

obtained by multiplexing information to be distributed in a description format, used in a

multimedia network, as an entity of a data format used for multiplexing first character

information in an FM audio signal; and

b)   a display ~~means for displaying~~ unit, arranged to display the first character

information,

wherein said display ~~means displaying~~ unit displays second character information

when ~~the information to be distributed has~~ said reception unit receives a broadcast signal

obtained by multiplexing the second character information.

Claim 33   (Currently Amended): An apparatus according to claim 32,

wherein when the information to be distributed has image information, said display ~~means~~ unit

displays a message indicating reception of the image information.

Claim 34   (Original): An apparatus according to claim 32, wherein the

information to be distributed is information in an HTML (HyperText Markup Language) format.

Claims 35-37 (Canceled)

Claim 38   (Currently Amended): An information processing method

comprising the steps of:

receiving a first broadcast signal obtained by multiplexing first information to be

distributed in a Markup language description format used in a multimedia network and a first

error check code added for the information to be distributed, wherein said receiving step is also

arranged so as to receive a second broadcast signal provided by multiplexing second signal

including character information distributed without using the Markup language description

format, and a second error check code<u>, and wherein the first information has a data format</u>

<u>thereof which includes a format that complies with a data format of the second information</u>; and

performing error correction or detection processing ~~of the~~ <u>using</u> the first error

check code,

wherein said performing step is also arranged so as to perform error correction or

detection processing on the second information by using the second error check code, when the

second broadcast signal is received in said receiving step.

Claim 39   (Canceled)

Claim 40   (Currently Amended): An information processing method

comprising the steps of:

receiving a broadcast signal obtained by multiplexing information to be

distributed in a description format, used in a multimedia network, as an entity of a data format

used for multiplexing first character information in an FM audio signal; and

displaying second character information using <u>a display unit, arranged to</u> display

~~means for displaying~~ the first character information when ~~the information to be distributed has~~

<u>said receiving step receives a broadcast signal obtained by multiplexing</u> the ~~second~~ character

information.

Claims 41-51 (Canceled)